

BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF CUSTER TELEPHONE)
COOPERATIVE, INC.'S PETITION FOR) CASE NO. CUS-T-07-01
AMENDMENT OF ITS CERTIFICATED)
SERVICE AREA BOUNDARY) ORDER NO. 30290

On February 14, 2007, Custer Telephone Cooperative, Inc. filed a Petition for Amendment of Certificated Service Area Boundary, asking the Commission to amend Custer's Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to include three areas identified as Yankee Fork, Morgan Creek, and Slate Creek areas. Custer is a mutual, non-profit telephone company over which the Commission has very little regulatory authority. The Commission issued a Certificate to Custer pursuant to *Idaho Code* § 62-615, but that version of the statute was repealed by the Legislature in 1997. The Commission has authority to designate a geographic service area for eligible telecommunications carriers, including mutual telephone companies, pursuant to *Idaho Code* § 62-610E, and the Commission considered Custer's Application under that statute.

On February 28, 2007, the Commission issued a Notice of Application and Notice of Modified Procedure to process the Application. Written comments were filed only by the Commission Staff in response to the Notice. Staff reported that the three affected areas currently are not within any company's service area, and that granting the Application is in the public interest. Staff recommended that Custer's Petition to amend its certificated service area boundaries be approved.


On the record in this case, we find it reasonable and appropriate to approve Custer's Petition for Amendment of Certificated Service Area Boundary. Granting the Petition will bring three geographic areas into the certificated area of an incumbent telephone company, enabling customers to request service from an established service provider. Accordingly, we approve amendment of Custer's certificated service area to include the Yankee Fork, Morgan Creek, and Slate Creek areas.

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Petition of Custer Telephone Cooperative, Inc. for Amendment of its Certificated Service Area Boundary is approved. Custer's Certificate No. 308 is amended to include the areas as described in Exhibit C to Custer's Petition.

THIS IS A FINAL ORDER. Any person interested in this Order may petition for reconsideration within twenty-one (21) days of the service date of this Order. Within seven (7) days after any person has petitioned for reconsideration, any other person may cross-petition for reconsideration. See *Idaho Code* § 61-626.

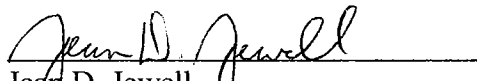
DONE by Order of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission at Boise, Idaho this 10th day of April 2007.


PAUL KJELLANDER, PRESIDENT


MARSHA H. SMITH, COMMISSIONER


MACK A. REDFORD, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:


Jean D. Jewell
Commission Secretary

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